

JUVENILE JUSTICE: Emerging Issues & Solutions

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APAAC Training Center
Phoenix, Arizona



IDENTIFYING THE NON-IDENTIFIED: Signs of Minor Victims of Sex Trafficking

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Distributed By:

ARIZONA PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

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Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking



 Mesa Police Department
Special Victims Unit
Prosecutor Training - 2015

WHY

MURDER

RAPE

CHILD MOLESTATION

KIDNAPPING

Sex Trafficking
Rape for Profit



Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking
Child Rape for Profit

Perception



Cool



Perception



Perception



Perception



Perception



Perception



Perception vs. Reality



Perception vs. Reality



Sex Trafficking Reality

- Intro DMST video



> SEX TRAFFICKING STATISTICS



Objectives

- Be able to define **Sex Trafficking** and **Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking**
- Have a realistic picture of what Sex Trafficking looks like in our community
- Be able to identify the warning signs of Sex Trafficking
- Understand the shift to a Victim Centered Approach

Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking

DMST = **Child Rape for Profit**

- Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery
- Victims of trafficking exploited for commercial sex or labor purposes
- Traffickers use force, fraud or coercion to achieve exploitation



Trafficking vs. Prostitution

■ Trafficking

- Trafficker (aka PIMP)
- Force, Fraud, Coercion
- Surrenders proceeds
- May lack freedom of movement
- May lack basic needs unless "earned"
- Threats or actual violence
- Juvenile

■ Prostitution

- "Independent"
- Choice/Consent
- Keeps proceeds
- Freedom of movement
- Freedom to leave
- *Most started out as trafficked juveniles*

Sex Trafficking (ARS 13-1307A)

A. It is unlawful for a person to knowingly traffic another person who is eighteen years of age or older with either of the following:

1. The intent to cause the other person to engage in any prostitution or sexually explicit performance by deception, force or coercion.
2. The knowledge that the other person will engage in any prostitution or sexually explicit performance by deception, coercion or force.

Sex Trafficking is a Class 3 Felony



Child Prostitution (ARS 13-3212)

A person commits child prostitution by knowingly:

1. Causing any minor to engage in prostitution.
2. Using any minor for the purposes of prostitution.
3. Permitting a minor who is under the person's custody or control to engage in prostitution.
4. Receiving any benefit for or on account of procuring or placing a minor in any place or in the charge or custody of any person for the purpose of prostitution.
5. Receiving any benefit pursuant to an agreement to participate in the proceeds of prostitution of a minor.
6. Financing, managing, supervising, controlling or owning, either alone or in association with others, prostitution activity involving a minor.
7. Transporting or financing the transportation of any minor with the intent that the minor engage in prostitution.

Child Prostitution is a Class 2 Felony



Definitions

- **Trafficker (Pimp) -**
 - A person who sells the victim for some sort of gain (usually money)
- **Facilitator-**
 - A person who assists in the trafficking of the victim and creates distance between the victim and the trafficker (driver, taxi driver, hotel worker, other traffickers, etc.)
- **Bottom Girl (Bitch) (HBIC)-**
 - A victim who has gained favor with the trafficker and has some level of authority (recruiting, driving other victims, etc)
- **John (trick, buyer, customer) -**
 - A person who pays for sex
- **Victim-**
 - A person who is being trafficked



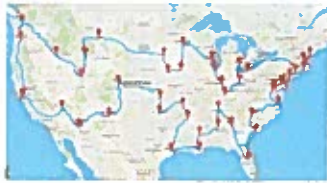
The Track



The Circuit

■ The Circuit (multi-state)

- Major Cities
- Major Events
 - Superbowl
 - Phoenix Open
 - NBA All-Star Game
 - Major Conventions



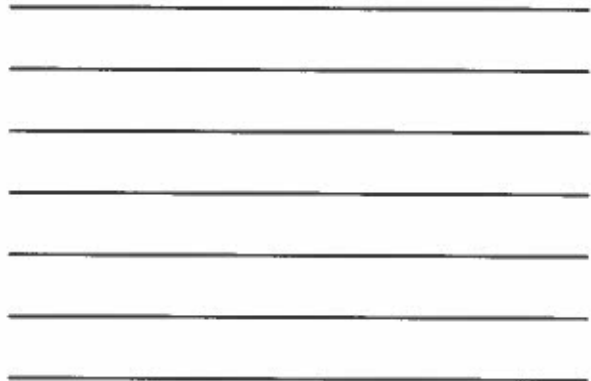
The Digital Track



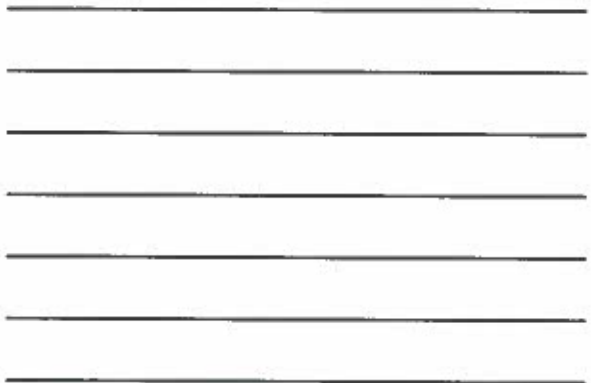
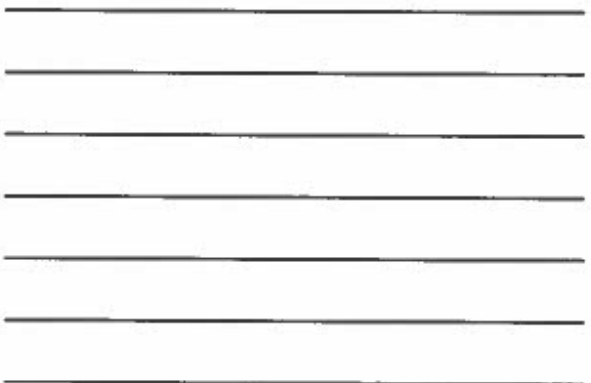
Backpage.com

- The website is a target rich environment
- Easy to identify prostitution
- Certain research based criteria will help with identifying trafficked victims
- For example...





A screenshot of the Google homepage from 2003. The page features the multi-colored Google logo at the top center. Below the logo is a search bar with the text "902.726.7373" entered. Under the search bar are two links: "Google Images" and "Find WebPages". At the bottom center, there is a link that says "More Google my technology". In the bottom right corner, there is a small, dark, shield-shaped logo with a crest inside. The background is white, and the overall layout is clean and minimalist.

[illegible]

If you can't
see it...

... does it
cease to
exist?



Mesa Case

- 16-years-old
- New to Mesa
- Family
- Boyfriend back home
- Depressed



Mesa Case

- Park
- Meets "friends"
- Job
- Taken to Phoenix
- Gone 4 days



Mesa Case



- Motel parking lot
- 3 a.m.
- Alcohol / Drugs
- Medical call
- Runaway "hit"

Perception vs. Reality



Perception vs. Reality

Firemen



Mesa Case



- Disclosure to mom
- Hospital
- Lies to police
- Delayed investigation
- Evidence lost
- Suspects gone

Victim Centered Approach

- Prioritizing the safety, privacy and well-being of the victim.
- Recognizing that victims are never responsible for the crimes committed against them and that offenders are always responsible for their crimes.
- Understanding the impact of victim trauma and how it affects victim behavior.
- Allows for better intelligence collection
- Contributes to building better cases against pimps/traffickers
- Can lead to a significant reduction in patrol calls for service



The Game

- Grooming
 - Manipulating the Vulnerable
 - Posing as the "Boyfriend"
 - Control through isolation, degradation and physical/emotional torture...
 - ...Mix in occasional indulgences
 - Do Not Self Identify as Victims



Victim Mindset

Frequently victims:

- Distrust outsiders, especially law enforcement (*grooming*)
- Do not self-identify as victims; often blame themselves for predicaments (*grooming*)
- Although many victims have been beaten and/or raped, current situation may still be better than where they came from (*why they ran to begin with*)
 - Domestic Violence
 - Group homes
- Fear for safety of families, who are often threatened by traffickers (*coercion*)
- May lose basic needs (food, shelter, etc)



Identifying Sex Trafficking

- Who is most likely first to come upon crimes of human trafficking?
- Look beneath surface:
 - Domestic abuse
 - Medical issues
 - Criminal / Legal problems
 - Hotel / Motel activity
 - Foster Care / Shelters
 - Retail Businesses
 - Counseling Services

Identifying Sex Trafficking

- Reactive
 - Calls for service
 - Calls from family members
 - Task Force & Other agency tips
 - Community complaints
- Proactive
 - Internet reviews
 - Undercover operations
 - Proactive investigations of traffickers
 - Screening cases



Identifying Sex Trafficking

- Chronic runaway / homeless youth
- Excess or unexplained amounts of cash
- Unexplained cell phone(s)
- Hotel room keys
- Branding (tattoos, piercings, jewelry)
- Lying about age / false ID

Identifying Sex Trafficking

- Older boyfriend
- High # of sexual partners at young age
- Sexually explicit social media profiles
- Absences from school
- Injuries / signs of physical abuse
- Use of prostitution terminology
 - Daddy
 - Wife / Wife-in-law / Sister Wife / Cousin-in-law
 - "Family" or Folks
 - Seasoning
 - Quota
 - Choosing Up

Evidence

- | | |
|--|--|
| ▪ Electronics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cell phone, computers, camera's, etc | ▪ Condoms |
| ▪ Gift cards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AmEx, GreenDot, etc | ▪ Travel documents |
| ▪ Receipts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Retail, food, clothing | ▪ Clothing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lingerie, shoes |
| ▪ Rental agreements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vehicle, hotel, motel | ▪ Bedding |
| | ▪ Gang indicia |
| | ▪ Photographs |
| | ▪ DNA |

QUESTIONS

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